SELF EMPLOYED PRODUCTIVE ENDEAVOURS BY THE RURAL POOR

*69. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the specific steps being taken to ensure that self-employed productive endeavours by the rural poor lead to guaranteed increase in jobs and goods at the same time ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL) . The Government has taken a number of steps for ensuring self-employment to the rural poor. The Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) which is a major self-employment programme for the rural poor launched on 2nd October, 1980 is in operation in all the blocks in the country. Under IRDP the identified rural poor are assisted with income generating schemes which are funded by governmental subsidy and institutional credit. In 1991-92 it is targetted to assist 22 5 lakh families under IRDP.

TRYSEM (TRAINING OF RURAL YOUTH FOR SELF EMPLOY MENT)

Is a special scheme to ensure productive income generating endeavours for the rural youth. Under TRYSEM. which is a supplementing scheme for IRDP, rural youth between the age of 18 to 35 years are trained in technical and entrepreneurial skills in order to enable them to take up self-employment. In 1991-92, 4 25 lakh youth are to be trained under TRYSEM.

DWCRA (DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN AND CHII DREN IN RURAL AREAS)

Further, in order to provide opportunities to women members of rural poor families in self-employment, DWCRA, a sub-scheme of IRDP is being continued. Under DWCRA, groups of women are assisted for economic activities for self-employment suited to the skill, aptitude and local conditions. In 1991-92, 10,000 groups of women are expected to be formed under DWCRA.

PROVISION OF TV SECOND CHANNEI TO STATE GOVERNMENTS

*70. SHRI SOBHANA DRESWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) Whether, the Union Government are examining the proposal to make available TV Second Channel to the concerned State Governments;

(b) if so, the likely, date by which a decision will be taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The handing over of local channel, commonly known as 2nd channel T.V., to the State Government is not consistent with the independence of the electronic media in the context of the Prasar Bharti and introduction of competition with public corporations

FINALISATION OF EIGHTH PLAN

*71 DR ASIM BALA :

SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been an inordinate delay in finalisation of the Eighth Five Yeal Plan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore ;

(c) when the Eighth Plan is likely to be finalised; and

(d) the strategy incorporated in the approach paper of the Eighth Five Year plan to ensure people's participation in execution of various rural development programmes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b) Frequent changes of Government since 1989 have unavoidably delayed the formulation of the Eighth Plan.

(c) Necessary steps are being taken now for very early finalisation of the Eighth Plan.

(d) The strategy of ensuring people's participation in the execution of rural development programmes through democratic decentralisation and revitalisation of Panchayat Raj institutions will constitute a major element of the Plan.

INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES IN RURAL AREAS

*72. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to improve infrastructure facilities in rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details of the programmes in this regard;

(c) whether the allocations for the said purpose would be enhanced; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the infrastructure facilities would be improved in rural areas of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL) : (a) and (b) Government recognize the need to improve the infrastructure facilities in rural areas. Under poverty alleviation programmes like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and State Sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP), funds are provided for improving infrastructure facilities in rural areas. The details of action to be taken for further improvement will depend upon funds allocated under the Plan for this purpose.

(c) and (d) As the basic features including the size and shape of Eighth Five Year Plan are yet to be finalised, information in this regard is not available.

LIVE TELECAST OF CAR FESTIVAL OF LORD JAGANNATH OF ORISSA

*73. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Union Government for live telecast of one of the important festivals of the country, i.e., the car festival of Lord Jagannath in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) and (b) As per the existing policy and available technique, live TV coverages are limited to envents of nationwide topicality such as Republic Day Parade, Independence Day, International Conferences, important sports events, etc. For other important socio-cultural events, TV reports are prepared for subsequent telecast on Doordarshan. The Car Festival at Puri is also telecast on Doordarshan through a report in the national programme in addition to the news coverage on the same day.

(Translation)

REVISION OF GADGIL FORMULA FOR CENTRAL ASSISTANCE

*74. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether poverty index finds any place in the modified Gadgil Formula for Central Assistance to States;